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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

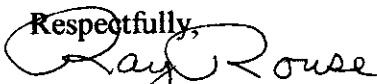
RE: MM Docket 99-25
Comments on Low Power FM

I feel very strongly that small communities without FM radio stations should be given preference to new low power commercial FM stations up to 1,000 watts at 328 feet. Owners of broadcast stations in near-by larger markets should not be allowed to apply for LPFM. Stand alone AM stations in small markets should also be allowed to file for these FM stations.

Just a few years ago almost every radio station actually served its community with programs that informed its listeners of what was happening in their area. Now all too many of them are under one owner that only advertise and entertain with total disregard to the basics that broadcasters once were committed to. They purchase stations from small towns, upgrade and move them to larger markets where they are automated and never cover any event or participate in anything in the town where the station started. There are still some broadcasters "from the old school" that fulfill their obligations to their community but they're getting harder to find.

As a broadcaster for more than forty-five years, it took some soul searching to take a public stand on LPFM. I have served as the Missouri SECC chairman since 1984. I was the first individual in the U.S. to inspect radio and TV stations under the pilot program in cooperation with the F.C.C. I also built and operated an AM/FM station in a small market so I feel that I have seen all sides of the changing broadcasting industry.

Respectfully,


Ray Rouse

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